

RESOLUTION of Support for Bicycle Lanes in the Sacramento-San Joaquin  
Delta Along Improved Delta Levees

01-12

**WHEREAS**, the California Constitution, Article 10, Section 4, guarantees a public right of access to the navigable waterways of the State, including our treasured Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

**WHEREAS**, SB 1556 (Torlakson) mandates the Delta Protection Commission to prepare a plan for the Great California Delta Trail System which is to be a continuous regional recreation corridor that will extend around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta; including, but not limited to, the delta's shorelines in Contra Costa, Solano, San Joaquin, Sacramento, and Yolo Counties.

**WHEREAS**, California Water Code section 11910 requires that the Department of Water Resources incorporate recreational features in flood control projects, such as levees, when consistent with other uses of the projects, and section 11910 mandates that the Department coordinate planning for recreation with other state agencies.

**WHEREAS**, the landscape of the Delta poses challenges for the development of a regional trail system as it is predominantly agricultural land in private ownership surrounded by narrow levee roads.

**WHEREAS**, as levee improvements are made, improved bicycle lanes (class II or class I if feasible) could be incorporated into a wider surface corridor.

**WHEREAS**, improved bicycle lanes (class II bicycle lanes, or class I lanes if feasible) along this these levees could be incorporated in into the California Delta Trail system to help fulfill SB 1556.

**WHEREAS**, such bicycle lanes would also support other plans which focus on the enhancement of Delta recreation to assist with economic sustainability of the region in a way that is consistent with the Delta Reform Act of 2009 and defining the Delta as an evolving place including California State Park's *Recreation Proposal for the Sacramento San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh*, and the Delta Protection Commission's *Economic Sustainability Plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta*.



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Delta Protection Commission staff work with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board; the counties of Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, and Yolo; Delta Reclamation Districts; and the Department of Water Resources to encourage the incorporation of improved bicycle lanes (class II lanes, or class I lanes if feasible) as Delta levees are designed, engineered and upgraded taking into account concerns of local residents and the viability of the Delta economy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Delta Protection Commission hereby encourages the Department of Water Resources to revise and amend Department regulations and policies to make them consistent with the public policy of the State to encourage public access to waterways, and to increase opportunities for the public to use levees for nonmotorized recreation and transportation.

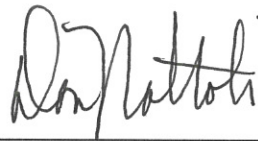
**PASSED AND ADOPTED**, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July 2012:

**AYES: 10**

**NOES: 1**

**ABSTAIN: 0**

**ABSENT: 3**



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Chair, Delta Protection Commission